

Decat Intent: To redirect child welfare and juvenile justice funding to services which are more preventive, family centered and community-based in order to reduce use of restrictive approaches that rely on institutional, out-of-home and out-of-community care.



LINN COUNTY DECATEGORIZATION BOARD MEETING

Tentative Agenda
February 11, 2025; 2:30-3:30pm

Teams - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89314059020>

Members: Hailee Sandberg, Chris Wyatt, Valarie Lovaglia

Alternate: Kristi Tisl

Staff: Meredith Hershner

Guests: Heidi Anaya, Dawn Schott

Chris Wyatt called the meeting to order at 2:32pm

Call Meeting to Order

Chris Wyatt

Guests: (Type Name, Agency, and Questions in chat box)

Chris Wyatt

Public Comment

Chris Wyatt

Minutes: **Action** – 1/14/25 Decat Board Minutes (in packet)

Chris Wyatt

- M/S/C (Sandberg/Wyatt). Carried unanimously.

Presenter

- Dawn Schott – Tanager, Director of Residential Services
 - Summit House – Provides a safe and inviting environment that is less intensive and restrictive than a hospital
 - Timeline – Opened in April 2024 and began with providing services Mon-Fri, Late May 2024 provided services Mon-Fri 24/7, June 2024 provided services seven days a week, and October 2025 began collaborating with F2 and their mobile crisis outreach, future plans include opening 8 beds, up from 4
 - Eligibility – Youth ages 8-17
 - How to make a referral – call or email by a youth themselves, parents/legal guardians, or community support workers
 - Insurance – Summit bills private insurance and MCO's and will assist in the application process for regional funding, but do not charge families for a youth that stays at Summit, but therapy charges can be incurred
 - Services – While at Summit house youth receive evaluation and assessment, development of stabilization plan, therapy, skill building and coping strategies, parent outreach and collaboration, linkage to other community services, and aftercare until services are in place
 - Data – do kids stay at home once they are discharged from Summit, yes they stay at home.

Child Welfare Trends/Issues/Updates

Valarie Lovaglia

- Lovaglia shared HHS is getting ready to hire a new Service Area Manager, which will be announced soon. Have a new Social Work Administrator, Mindy Druschel.

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Youth and Juvenile Welfare Trends/Issues/Updates

Chris Wyatt

- Wyatt had no new updates at this time.

Fiscal Items

Amy Grunewaldt

- Informative – FY25 Financial Update
 - Hershner walked through the current spending. No concerns.

Operational Items

Meredith Hershner

- Discussion – Continuum of Care Update
 - Grunewaldt walked through the new ECI bill and updated the board on what impact this new bill has.
 - Grunewaldt has been named the District 7 Interim Lead and is creating the Fiscal Agent RFP.
 - The main impact is that there could be gaps in services which we might want to discuss as a Decat board that have previously been funded by ECI.
- **ACTION** – Contract Renewals
 - Juvenile Court Services, Community-Based Tracking
 - Juvenile Court Services, Wrap Around
 - Foundation 2, Juvenile and Family Assistance Stabilization Track (J-FAST)
 - Motion to approve J-FAST for \$149,998 for FY26
 - M/S/C (Sandberg/Lovaglia). Carried unanimously.
- Review – 2nd Quarter Progress Report Summary

Open Agenda

Chris Wyatt

- Ben Rogers will be rolling off the Decat Board
 - Motion to approve Brandy Meisheid as the new Linn County Decat Board Representative.
 - M/S/C (Sandberg/Lovaglia). Carried unanimously.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 2:30pm

Chris Wyatt

Adjournment at 3:25pm

Chris Wyatt